



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL KENNETH C. FOLGER



Colonel Kenneth C. Folger is the Director of Operations, Joint Forces Headquarters-Air Component, Kansas National Guard. In this role he develops and coordinates Strategic Plans and Operations for State Headquarters, the 184th IW, and the 190th ARW. Additionally, he monitors combat readiness and creates and reviews plans for the employment of the Kansas Air Guard in both federal and state tasking. He is a rated officer, and continues to maintain currency in the state's flying mission.

Raised in Kansas and a Topeka resident for the past 20 years, Col Folger was selected for pilot training by the 190th ARW in November of 1987 and commissioned in March of 1988. He attended Undergraduate Pilot Training at Reese AFB in May of 1988, where he was a distinguished graduate, receiving the Flying Training "Top stick" award and the Air Training Command Commander's Trophy. He completed KC-135 Combat Crew Training at Castle AFB, CA in 1989. Col Folger completed USAF Maintenance Officer School at Chanute AFB, IL in 1993.

At the 190th ARW, Col Folger has served as the Air Refueling Squadron Commander, Air Operations Officer, and Flight Commander, Logistics Group Chief of Quality Assurance, and Operations Group Chief of Current Operations. He is a Command Pilot with over 3900 hours in the KC-135 E/D/R and over 13000 total hours of flight time. He has served his country by direct participation in operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Deny Flight, Restore Hope, Deliberate Guard, Allied Force, Northern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Col Folger resides in Topeka, Kansas with his wife Barbara, and two daughters, Jordan and Natalie. He is employed by United Airlines as a pilot based out of Chicago, Illinois.

EDUCATION

- 1992 Bachelor of Science-General Studies Wichita State University
- 1993 USAF Maintenance Officer School, Chanute AFB, IL
- 1994 Master of Science- Aviation Safety, Central Missouri State University
- 1995 Squadron Officer School
- 1996 USAF Central Flight Instructor Course
- 1996 USAF Advanced Instrument School
- 2008 Reserve Component National Security Course
- 2008 Air War College

ASSIGNMENTS

- May 1988 - May 1989: USAF Undergraduate Pilot Training, Reese AFB
- Apr 1992 – May 1995: Logistics Group Chief of Quality Assurance, 190ARW

Aug 1995 – Jul 1997: Operations Group Chief of Current Operations, 190 ARW
Jun 2002 – Jan 2004: Flight Commander, 117 ARS
Jan 2004 – Aug 2007: Operations Officer, 117 ARS
May 2008-Jul 2008: Detachment Commander, 506th EARS
Aug 2009-Nov 2009: Director of Operations 340th EARS
Aug 2007 – Sep 2010 117th Air Refueling Squadron, Commander

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot
Flight Hours: 4000+ Military; 13,000+ Total
Aircraft Flown: T-37, T-38, KC-135D/E/R, B727, B737, B757, B767, A319, A320

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal, 1 Oak Leaf Cluster
Air Medal
Aerial Achievement Medal
AF Commendation Medal, 1 Oak Leaf Cluster
AF Achievement Medal, 3 Oak Leaf Clusters
Joint Meritorious Unit Award, 1 Oak Leaf Cluster
Meritorious Unit Award
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device, 3 Oak Leaf Clusters
Combat Readiness Medal, 7 Oak Leaf Clusters
National Defense Service Medal, 1 Oak Leaf Cluster
Southwest Asia Service Medal, 2 Oak Leaf Clusters
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
Armed Forces Service Medal
Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border
AF Longevity Service, 4 Oak Leaf Clusters
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 7 'M' Devices
Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (Pistol)
AF Training Ribbon
Kuwait Liberation Medal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Kuwait Liberation Medal Government of Kuwait
Kansas National Guard Meritorious Service Ribbon
Kansas National Guard Service Medal, 1 Oak Leaf Cluster

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Col Folger is an A-320 First Officer with United Airlines and a Life Member of the National Guard Association of the United States and the National Guard Association of Kansas.

DATE OF RANK

Second Lieutenant: 31 March 1988
First Lieutenant: 5 May 1990
Captain: 18 May 1992
Major: 13 June 1996
Lieutenant Colonel: 13 June 2003
Colonel: 10 June 2011

Current as of: 21 Dec 2011